A M E N D M E N T

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph that starts on page 1, line 3 with the following:

The present application is related to the following U.S. Patent Applications, each of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.————— 10/016,518, filed ————— 11/1/01, titled "WEIGHTED FAIR QUEUE HAVING EXTENDED EFFECTIVE RANGE" (IBM Docket No. ROC920010199US1);

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.————— 10/015,994, filed ————— 11/1/01, titled "WEIGHTED FAIR QUEUE SERVING PLURAL OUTPUT PORTS" (IBM Docket No. ROC920010200US1);

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.————— 10/015,760, filed ————— 11/1/01, titled "WEIGHTED FAIR QUEUE HAVING ADJUSTABLE SCALING FACTOR" (IBM Docket No. ROC920010201US1);

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.————— 10/004,373, filed ————— 11/1/01, titled "QoS SCHEDULER AND METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING PEAK SERVICE DISTANCE USING NEXT PEAK SERVICE TIME VIOLATED INDICATION" (IBM Docket No. ROC920010203US1);

-2-

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.————
10/002,416, filed ———— 11/1/01, titled "QoS
SCHEDULER AND METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING QUALITY OF
SERVICE WITH AGING STAMPS" (IBM Docket No.
ROC920010204US1);

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.————
10/004,440, filed ———— 11/1/01, titled "QoS
SCHEDULER AND METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING QUALITY OF
SERVICE WITH CACHED STATUS ARRAY" (IBM Docket No.
ROC920010205US1); and

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.————
10/004,217, filed ———— 11/1/01, titled "QoS
SCHEDULER AND METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING QUALITY OF
SERVICE ANTICIPATING THE END OF A CHAIN OF FLOWS" (IBM
Docket No. ROC920010206US1).

Please replace the paragraph that starts on page 5,
line 12 with the following:

    As shown in FIG. 2, the scheduling queue 42
is associated with a respective output port 44 of the
first data flow chip 12. It is to be understood that
the output port 44 is one of the first switch ports 16
illustrated in FIG. 1. (However, if the data flow
chip/scheduler pair under discussion were the egress
side data flow chip 14 and scheduler chip 38, then the
output port 44 would be one of the network ports 22.)
Although only one scheduling queue 42 and one
corresponding output port 44 are shown, it should be

-3-

understood that in fact there may be plural output ports and corresponding scheduling queues each assigned to a respective port. (However, according to an alternative embodiment, disclosed in co-pending patent application Serial No. ———— 10/015,994, filed ———— 11/1/01 (Attorney Docket No. ROC920010200US1), a group of output ports may be associated with each scheduling queue 42. This co-pending patent application is incorporated herein by reference.)

Please replace the paragraph that starts on page 7, line 25 with the following:

As noted above, each scheduler may include a plurality of scheduling queues. For example, 64 scheduling queues may be supported in each scheduler. Each scheduling queue services a respective output port, or a group of output ports as taught in the above-referenced co-pending patent application Serial No. ———— 10/015,994.

Please replace the paragraph that starts on page 13, line 14 with the following:

A scheduling queue 42 is considered to be "active" if it is not empty, and if at least one output port assigned to the scheduling queue 42 is not in a backpressure condition. (The concept of backpressure is well known to those who are skilled in the art, and need not be explained herein.) Thus, for the scheduling queue 42 which follows the most

-4-

recently searched scheduling queue 42, the corresponding empty indicator 50 is examined to determine whether the empty indicator 50 indicates that the associated scheduling queue 42 is empty. If the empty indicator 50 indicates that the scheduling queue 42 is empty, then the scheduling queue 42 is not searched, and the empty indicator 50 of the following scheduling queue 42 is examined. However, if the empty indicator 50 indicates that the scheduling queue 42 is not empty (and assuming that at least one output port assigned to the scheduling queue 42 is not in a backpressure condition), then the scheduling queue 42 is selected for searching. Searching of the scheduling queue (ring) 42 is indicated at block 62 in FIG. 5. Searching of the scheduling queue 42 for a "winning" flow (i.e., the flow that is closest to the head of the scheduling queue) may proceed in a conventional fashion. Alternatively, the scheduling queue 42 may be constituted in accordance with an invention disclosed in co-pending patent application Serial No. ————— 10/016,518, filed ————— 11/1/01 (Attorney Docket No. ROC920010199US1), such that the scheduling queue has plural subqueues with mutually different ranges and resolutions. In this case, the plural subqueues may be searched in parallel to find the flow that is closest to the head of the scheduling queue. The disclosure of this co-pending patent application is incorporated herein by reference.

-5-